

Message Text

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FM USMISSION USNATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2652
SECDEF WASHDC
ALL NATO CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY MADRID
USNMR SHAPE BE
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USNATO 06575

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PORC, NATO, NAC, EAID, GR, PO, TU
SUBJECT: THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S STUDY OF ECONOMIC
COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE WITHIN THE ALLIANCE

REFS: (A) STATE 6389 DTG 280002Z JUN 78 (NOTAL);
(B) USNATO 6345 DTG 231717Z JUN 78 (NOTAL); (C) USNATO
6363 DTG 241020Z JUN 78 (NOTAL); (D) CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
DTG 291839Z JUN 78 (NOTAL)

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1. SUMMARY: WITH A VIEW TOWARD EXPECTED CONSIDERATION
AT THE JULY 5 NAC OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S (SYG)
STUDY ON ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION WITHIN
THE ALLIANCE (PROPOSED BY TURKEY AND THEN MANDATED IN
PARA 11 OF THE MAY 31, 1978 NATO SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE)
AND THE DEPARTMENT'S INTEREST IN MORE INFORMATION ON
THE PURPOSE AND STRUCTURE OF THE STUDY (REFTEL (A)),
WE HAVE TOUCHED BASE INFORMALLY WITH PORTUGUESE AND
GREEK DELEGATION OFFICERS REGARDING THEIR COUNTRIES'
INTEREST IN THE STUDY AS WELL AS WITH NATO'S INTERNATIONAL
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STAFF (IS). THE PORTUGUESE OFFICER SAID FORTHRIGHTLY
THAT PORTUGAL EXPECTED TO HAVE ITS NEEDS GIVEN FIRST-RANK
IMPORTANCE IN THE STUDY. HE EMPHASIZED THE HOPE THAT
THE STUDY WOULD LAY DOWN GUIDELINES FOR TYPES OF AID
WHICH WOULD HAVE LONG-TERM SIGNIFICANCE FOR PORTUGAL'S
ECONOMY. THE GREEK OFFICER EXPECTED THAT HIS COUNTRY
WOULD WANT ITS NEEDS CONSIDERED AS WELL. WHILE THE

IS REPORTS NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN ITS THINKING REGARDING THE STUDY, WE UNDERSTAND THAT NATO'S INFORMATION DIRECTORATE HAS SUGGESTED IN AN INTERNAL MEMORANDUM THAT THE STUDY BECOME THE THEME FOR A TELEVISION FILM ON NATO'S DECISION-MAKING PROCESS (END SUMMARY).

2. THE PORTUGUESE DELEGATION OFFICER ANSWERED FORTHRIGHTLY THAT PORTUGAL HAD MUCH INTEREST IN THE STUDY AND EXPECTED LISBON'S NEEDS TO ENJOY FIRST RANK PRIORITY OF ATTENTION IN THE STUDY. HE HOPED THAT THE STUDY MIGHT RESULT IN A SET OF GUIDELINES REGARDING AID TO PORTUGAL WHICH WOULD EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF AID HAVING A LONG-TERM MULTIPLIER EFFECT. A MAJOR PROBLEM AS HE SAW IT IS THAT PORTUGAL IS A COUNTRY WITH ENORMOUS ECONOMIC NEEDS AND, THEREFORE, IF AID IS NOT EARMARKED FOR PROJECTS PROMISING LONG-TERM BENEFITS, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TENDS TO BE DIVERTED TO MEET IMMEDIATE, PRESSING NEEDS WITH THE END RESULT THAT SUCH ASSISTANCE HAS NO LASTING EFFECT IN STRENGTHENING PORTUGAL THROUGH RESOLUTION OF FUNDAMENTAL ECONOMIC DEFICIENCIES. (WE NOTE IN THIS CONNECTION PARA B OF REF D.) HE ALSO MENTIONED PORTUGAL'S APPRECIATION FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND ATTACHED IMPORTANCE TO THIS AS WELL.

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3. THE GREEK DELEGATION OFFICER ASSUMED THAT HIS
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GOVERNMENT EXPECTED THE STUDY TO INCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF THE ECONOMIC NEEDS OF GREECE, BUT HE SAID HE WAS WITHOUT FORMAL GUIDANCE.

4. WE UNDERSTAND FROM THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF (IS) THAT THE SYG HAS NOT AS YET TAKEN UP IS PROPOSALS REGARDING MODALITIES FOR STUDY (REFS (B) AND (C)). NEITHER HAS THERE BEEN FURTHER IS THINKING REGARDING POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF MILITARY ASPECTS OF ASSISTANCE IN THE STUDY.

5. ON A RELATED MATTER, WE UNDERSTAND FROM ASSISTANT SYG FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS LANKES, IN CONNECTION WITH A PROPOSAL TO MAKE A TELEVISION FILM ON NATO'S DECISION-MAKING PROCESS, THAT NATO'S INFORMATION DIRECTORATE (WHICH FALLS WITHIN LANKES' BAILIWICK) HAS SUGGESTED IN AN INTERNAL MEMORANDUM THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S STUDY ON ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION SERVE AS THE THEME FOR THIS FILM. WE GATHER FROM LANKES THAT NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE AND THAT LANKES HIMSELF IS UNCONVINCED THAT THIS WOULD PROVE A SUITABLE THEME FOR THE FILM. (COMMENT: WE WOULD AGREE WITH

LANKES THAT THE STUDY MIGHT NOT BE A SUITABLE THEME FOR THE FILM AND THAT CAREFUL CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN THIS PROPOSAL. LANKES SAID THAT THE FILM ON DECISION-MAKING SHOULD NOT INVOLVE A CONTROVERSIAL OR SENSITIVE THEME. IN THIS REGARD, WE WOULD NOTE THAT A FILM ON THIS THEME WOULD INVOLVE POTENTIALLY COMPLICATED GREEK-TURKISH ASPECTS AS WELL AS CONSIDER THE SENSITIVE ISSUE OF PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE AID

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USNATO 06575

COMMITMENTS TO LESS PROSPEROUS ALLIES. END COMMENT.)
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